## Remarks

Upon entry of the present amendment claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 1-14 have been amended in accordance with the requirements of U.S. patent practice. New claims 15-17 add no new matter, as these claims contain subject matter deleted from the amended claims. Applicants respectfully request entry of the preliminary amendment.

**M[redacted]ed-up Version of Amendments[redacted]**

Please make the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the title, please insert --This application is a National Phase Application of Patent Application **PCT/EP00/04807** filed on 26. May 2000.--

Please add the following abstract on page 40:

--ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a coating material that can be cured thermally or by actinic radiation and that contains at least one component (a1) with at least two functional groups (al1) which serve for cross-linking, by actinic radiation, and at least one functional group (a12) that can enter into thermal cross-linking reactions with the hydroxyl and/or thiol groups (a21) in component (a2), at least one branched cyclic and/or acyclic $C_9$-$C_{16}$ alkane (a2)) that is functionauzed with at least two hydroxyl or thiol groups (a21) or with at least one hydroxyl and at least one thiol group, and optionally at least one photo initiator (a3), at least one initiator of the thermal cross-linking reaction (a4), at least one reactive diluent that is cured by actinic radiation and/or thermafly, at least one lacquer additive (a6), at least one thermally curable component (a7) and/or at least one organic solvent (a8). The inventive coating material is used to produce transparent lacquers and multi-layer chromophor and/or effect lacquers.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A coating material curable thermally and with actinic radiation, comprising

(a1) at least one constituent [containing]comprising

(a11) at least two functional groups which serve for crosslinking with actinic radiation, and

(a12) at least one functional group which is able to undergo thermal crosslinking reactions with the hydroxyl and/or thiol groups (a21) in the constituent (a2), and

(a2) at least one branched, cyclic and/or acyclic $C_9$-$C_{16}$ functionalized alkane comprising at least two functional groups (a21) selected from

the group c[redacted]sting of hydroxyl groups, thiol gr[redacted], and mixtures thereof[functionalized with at least two hydroxyl or thiol groups or with at least one hydroxyl and at least one thiol group (a21)].

2. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in]of claim 1, [characterized in that it additionally comprises one or more of the components]further comprising at least one member selected from (a3) at least one photoinitiator, (a4) at least one thermal crosslinking initiator, (a5) at least one reactive diluent curable thermally and/or with actinic radiation, (a6) at least one coatings additive, (a7) at least one thermally curable constituent, [and/or] (a8) at least one organic solvent, and mixtures thereof.

3. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in]of claim 1[ or 2], [characterized in that said]wherein functional groups (a11) comprise at least one group selected from olefinically unsaturated groups, [and/or ]epoxide groups, and mixtures thereof,[ especially olefinically unsaturated groups,] and [said] functional groups (a12) comprise isocyanate groups.

4. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in one] of claim[s] 1[ to 3], [characterized in that said]wherein constituent (a1) comprises at least one member selected from a urethane (meth)acrylate, [and/or] a polyester (meth)acrylate, or mixtures thereof.

5. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in any] of claim[s] 1[ to 4], [characterized in that the]wherein functionalized alkane (a2) is liquid at room temperature.

6. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in any] of claim[s] 1[ to 5], [characterized in that the]wherein functionalized alkane (a2) has a boiling point of over 200°C.

7. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in any] of claim[s] 1[ to 6], [characterized in that the]wherein functionalized alkane (a2) is acyclic.

8. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in any] of claim[s] 1[ to 7], [characterized in that the]wherein functionalized alkane (a2) comprises [contains ]primary and/or secondary[, especially primary and secondary,] hydroxyl and/or thiol groups.

9. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in any] of claim[s] 1[ to 8], [characterized in that the]wherein functionalized alkane (a2) is a polyol (a2).

10. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in]of claim 9, characterized in that the polyols (a2) are diols and/or triols (a2).

11. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in]of claim 10, characterized in that the polyols (a2) are positionally isomeric dialkyloctanediols[, especially diethyloctanediols].

12. (Amended) The coating material [as claimed in]of claim 11, characterized in that the polyol (a2) [consists of or ]comprises 2,4-diethyl-1,5-octanediol.

13. (Amended) A process of coating a substrate comprising applying to a substrate the [The use of the ]coating material [as claimed in any ]of claim[s] 1[ to 12 in automotive OEM finishing, automotive refinish, the coating of plastics, the coating of furniture, and industrial coating, including coil coatings and container coatings, for the production of clearcoats and of multicoat color and/or effect coating systems].

14. [The use of the coating material as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12 for producing a clearcoat or a multicoat color and/or effect coating system, where at least one clearcoat film of a coating material as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12 curable thermally and with actinic radiation is applied to the surface of the primed or unprimed substrate or wet-on-wet to the surface of a basecoat film and is cured together, where appropriate, with the basecoat film]The

process of claim [redacted] wherein the applied coating materi[redacted] at least one coating selected from a basecoat or a clearcoat.

15. (New) The coating material of claim 1, wherein functionalized alkane (a2) comprises primary and secondary hydroxyl and/or thiol groups.

16. (New) The coating material of claim 11, characterized in that the polyols (a2) are positionally isomeric diethyloctanediols.

17. (New) The process of claim 13 wherein the substrate is an automotive part, a an article or component of furniture, a coil, or a container.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary E. Golota
Registration No. 36,814

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BASF Corporation
26701 Telegraph Road
Southfield, Michigan 48034-2442
(248)-948-2355
Customer No. 26922